I thank Dr M. Shaw for checking for me the Scottish Insect Records Index held in the Department of Natural History, National Museums of Scotland. — J.A. OWEN, 8 Kingsdown Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3PU.

ANASPIS BOHEMICA SCHILSKY (COL.: SCRAPTIIDAE) AT COYLUMBRIDGE. — *Anaspis bohemica* was added to the British list by my good friend Mr A.A. Allen (1975 *Ent. Rec.* **87**: 269) who discovered that this was the true identity of two *Anaspis* specimens given to him by the late G.H. Ashe. They had been beaten by Ashe from broom at Forest Lodge in Abernethy Forest on 22.vi.51 (Ashe, 1952, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **88**: 165) and had been labelled *A. hudsoni* Donisthorpe.

Apart from one possibility discussed later, no further captures of *A. bohemica* had been published by 1978 when I started to pay annual visits to Speyside. I kept an eye open for the species on every visit and, at times, sought it specifically, collecting large numbers of *Anaspis* specimens from rowan and other blossoms including bunches of umbels, thistles and other flowers set out in jars in the pine woods near Forest Lodge and around Loch Garten. I was never able to find broom growing around Forest Lodge and a resident who had lived near the Lodge for many years told me that be could not remember seeing it growing there. I set up jars with broom flowers (picked elsewhere) near the Lodge nevertheless and took a number of *Anaspis* from these. In all, I collected, over eight years, about 250 *Anaspis* specimens from Speyside, mainly in the Abernethy area, but all turned out on careful examination to be *frontalis* (Linnaeus) or *rufilabris* (Gyllenhal).

On 21.vi.86, however, my luck changed for, on a visit with my friend Mr R. Lyszkowski to the site of a clear-felled pine wood near Coylumbridge, about 12 km from Forest Lodge, I beat from dead pine branches an *Anaspis* which proved to be a female *bohemica*. It matches a male specimen, one of Ashe's captures kindly given to me by Mr Allen, and Mr Allen has examined my specimen and confirmed my identification. Female *Anaspis* specimens lack the abdominal features which characterise males but the general appearance of the specimen, together with the dark head, the dark first joint of the antennae, the cylindrical shape of antennal joints 6 - 10, the dark labial palps and the equal length of the spines at the apex of the middle tibiae leave no doubt as to its identity.

The possibility of an unpublished capture of the species arises from Mr Allen's observation (1975 *loc. cit.*) that Buck in his key to *Anaspis* (1954 *Hndbk. Identif. Brit. Insects* **5**, Pt. 9) figures for *hudsoni* abdominal appendages matching those of *rufilabris* but the aedeagus of *bohemica*. Now, at the time Buck produced his key (1954), there were apparently two species of *Anaspis* doing duty for *hudsoni* — *rufilabris* and *bohemica*. It seems that Buck, in making his drawings of *hudsoni*

used unwittingly examples of both species — one, which was actually *rufilabris*, for the abdominal appendages and another, which was actually *bohemica*, for the aedeagus. The origin of the latter has never been determined. It could have been one of Ashe's examples, similar to those given to Mr Allen, but if it was a British specimen and not one of Ashe's examples, this would constitute a third British record for the species.

For over a hundred years, the pine woods of Speyside have been visited by entomologists. The reason why *A. bohemica* has not been captured more often remains to be determined but at least now it has been found for certain at two sites. *A. septentrionalis* Champion, which is known only from two specimens taken in July 1876 near Aviemore (Champion, 1891 *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **27**: 104), has proved more elusive for nothing has been seen of the species in Britain, or elsewhere for that matter, since it was found. Perhaps further discoveries about the habits of *bohemica* will lead also to the rediscovery of *septentrionalis*. Curiously, neither species has been assigned Red Data Book status (*British Red Data Books* **2** Insects ed. D.B. Shirt, Nature Conservancy Council, 1987).

I thank Mr Allen for confirming the identity of this specimen and for helpful discussion of the status of the *A. bohemica* in Britain. Dr M. Shaw kindly checked for me the Scottish Insect Records Index held in the Department of Natural History, National Museums of Scotland.
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Insect Outbreaks. Edited by **Pedro Barbosa** and **Jack C. Schultz**. 578 pp., 65 text figs., 54 tables. Boards. Academic Press, 1987. $75.00. ISBN 0 12 078148 4.

This ambitious volume manages to collate a wealth of data and ideas about this important and complex subject. Insect outbreaks are defined succinctly in the excellent introduction by Alan A. Berryman as "... an explosive increase in the abundance of a particular species that occurs over a relatively short period of time. . . ."

Multi-author books of this type rarely succeed in achieving such a coherent as well as definitive overview of such a large topic. The division of the material into four sections: Theory and Classification; Community Structure; Biotic and Abiotic Factors and Evolutionary Consequences provides a logical structure to the work, enabling the worker rapidly to find the text of particular interest.

Unfortunately, there is no concluding or summative chapter, although each separate chapter has a brief summary. The tables are well laid out, and easy to understand. This is a unique volume which is indispensible for workers in the field. ELIZABETH ABDULLA.